OMAHA, MONDAY MORNING, JULY 2, 1917-TEN PAGES.

45 DROWNED IN TROLLEY WRECK AT NIAGARA FALLS; DEMAND PUNISHMENT OF VILLISCA AX MURDERERS; BAKER REPUDIATES OARD'S COAL RATE AGREEMENT

WAR SECRETARY DECLARES DEFENSE COUNCIL HAS NO POWER TO FIX FUEL PRICES All of Them Have Seen Service and Rose From the Ranks; GORGE ROUTE CAR PLUNGES

Head of Army Department Contends Price of \$3 at Mines for Coal is "Exorbitant, Unjust and Oppressive;" Daniels Says Navy Department Will Not Be Bound By Agreement.

Washington, July 1 .- Secretary of War Baker, as presi- ganization may rest assured that their dent of the Council of National Defense, repudiated tonight an agreement fixing a tentative price of \$3 a ton for bituminous coal, reached at a conference here Thursday between coal producers, Secretary Lane, a member of the Defense Council, members of the council's coal production committee and the federal trade commission.

Neither the council nor its committees, Secretary Baker said in a letter to W. S. Gifford of the council, has power to fix prices. He added that the price of \$3 at the mines, suggested for bituminous coal, is "exorbitant, unjust and oppressive."

Changed to August 5: Sec-

retary of War Baker to

Decide.

In announcing the tentative selec-

The tentative selection of camps

for the National Guard of the cen-

Nebraska, Iowa, Minnesota and Dakotas Division-Fort Worth, Tex.

Indiana-Kentucky Division-Anni-

These selections are not final, as

ern department which are yet to be

Division -

Illinois Division-Waco, Tex.

Michigan-Wisconsin

Wood's department.

out July 25 and August 5.

(By Associated Press.)

fighting about the Lens salient. Al-

though several correspondents have

been wounded, Serge Bassett is the first to be killed in the field during

the present war. He has been award-

ed the legion of honor for literary and

dramatic work. He will be buried to-

The Weather

Generally fair Monday: fresh northwest

1917, 1916, 1915, 1914,

Temperatures at Omaha Yesterday.

morrow with military honors.

British Army Headquarters

ston, Ala.

Houston, Tex.

NAVY NOT AFFECTED. Secretary Daniels, another member of the council, earlier in the day said the agreement would in no way affect coal purchases for the navy. The navy, he said, will continue to buy from the mines at \$2.33 a ton, leaving price to be determined after the Federal Trade commission has ascertained productive costs.

In his letter to Mr. Gifford, Mr.

Baker asserted that he believed no members of the Defense Council disagree with him as to the limitations on the powers of the Council and its committees and as to the effects of

The fact that the confeences were attended by members of the council and of the Trade commission, he declared, gave no legality to the agree-

Result of Conference.

ported after 400 operators, called here it is drafted into the federal service, by the coal production committee, if tentative plans of the War depart-The price fixing agreement was rehad adopted resolutions authorizing ment are carried out. their committees to give assent to such maximum bituminous prices as might be named by the secretary of the interior, the Federal Trade commission and the coal committee. previously announced decision to hold

The resolution was reported by Trade Commissioner Fort from a special committee. In presenting it for two or three weeks after it is for adoption, Mr. Fort declared he be- drafted into the federal service. Inlieved it was entirely safe for the con-ference to adopt and that any respon-the National Guard will be sent disibility as to the legality of fixing rectly to camp immediately after prices was put on the government and mobilization. not on the operators, under the terms the resolution. Some operators had expressed a fear that they might tral states, as announced, is as folbe prosecuted under the anti-trust laws if they entered into an agreement among themselves to lower

Had Inside Information.

An official announcement made through the public information committee said that in the final conference cost prices and other confideninformation was laid on the table and the government representatives. acting as judges, decided what would he the highest prices paid at the mines, the prices to go into effect cation of the central troops, as the lar qualified than those of the "Fight-luly 1, and to remain in effect until eastern state troops will be distributing Fourth." From the colonel down in restigations are made and other prices arranged.

Secretary Baker tonight indicated that as president of the Defense ent considered is one delaying until "gold braid." Council, he had received no notification of the arrangement reached at federal service. This plan has been federal service. This plan has been federal service as Colonel William as that vessel was being swung around preparatory to making its return trip with about 400 passengers for Children for the federal service. The closing sessions

Bakers' Letter to Gifford.

His letter to Mr. Gifford said: My attention has been called through the newspapers to the action reported to have been taken at Washington, D. C., during the last week by the so-called committee on coal production of the Council of National Defense, in co-operation with certain coal producers and representatives of coal mining enterprises, with regard the price of bituminous and anthracite coal.

"The facts seem to be that the coal production committee invited to Washington various coal operators and arranged conferences between them, members of the coal production committee and members of the federal trade commission, leading to the adoption of resolutions in favor of an early and accurate determination of the costs involved in the production of bituminous and anthracite coal, as a basis for some future action by some official agency of the government in fixing fair and just prices for these products, should any such agency be given power to do so.

Should Remain in Force.

"Pending such an ascertainment of costs this meeting seems to have adopted a resolution whereby the operators present agreed to sell bituminous coal at a price no higher than \$3 per ton, and that this obligation (Continued on Page Two, Column Two.)

Cossacks Want Conquered Lands Returned to Them

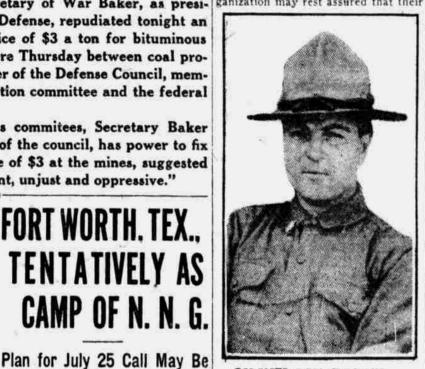
Petrograd, July 1.—The congress of Cossacks has resolved that lands Mean temperature. formerly belonging to the Cossacks Precipitation by right of conquest and later given by the crown to private owners must be returned to the Cossacks under conditions to be approved by the con-

Commanding Officers of "Fighting Fourth" JOE STILLINGER, FATHER OF Nebraska Regiment Inspire Confidence of Mothers Who Gave Sons to Their Country

naldo in Philippines.

By SAMUEL SLOTKY.

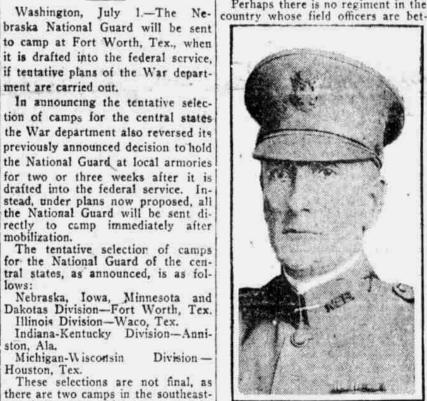
When the "Fighting Fourth," one of Nebraska's crack regiments, unlimbers for action "somewhere in France" mothers with sons in the or-



COLONEL W.E. BAEHR

poys will be led to victory by officers who have seen actual service and who "know what it is to tote a

Perhaps there is no regiment in the



Major Geo.H. Holdeman

selected by General Wood. It is hardly likely this will change the loed among the camps in General to the junior major, all have had years of military experience, first as The only change in the plan at pres- privates and up through the ranks to

urged as necessary to prevent in- tinual service with the organization cago. equalities in rank, since the relative he now commands twenty one years. rank of officers dates from their draft, have an advantage over those called man. He joined Company L of the the Yahr & Lange Drug company, France. July 1 .- Serge Basset, a dis- the islands taking part in thirty en- through two decks, causing a panic tinguished French war correspondent gagaments. His expereinece gained and carrying death or injury to all attached to the British armies, was there is expected to be invaluable who were in its path.

killed by rifle fire while watching the when he goes to the front. Hunting Little Brown Men.

Chasing the willy Philippine chieftan over the islands wasn't with-Bachr headed back for the states, he have happened. had passed up from the rank of corporal and sergeant and had had his first experience as a "shave tail."

Though many members of the old Thurston guard company quit upon being "mustered out," Colonel Baehr

(Continued on Page Three, Column Two.)

Russian Sailors Accept Challenge of Bravery

Petrograd, June 30 .- Two hundred Allmanroeder, a German aviator, who

sailors from the Baltic fleet have ap- was one of the brightest stars of peared at Riga to join the army and Lieutenant Baron von Richthofen's lead in an attack upon the enemy, according to the Ruskaya Volk. Their aerial combat. Lieutenant Allmanaction, says the newspaper was taken roeder had a record of thirty vicas the result of a declaration by an tories, although he only passed the army officer that if "200 brave men pilot examination last January. willing to die for their country could be found, the whole army would

fight. A fortnight ago a deputation from the fleet visited Riga, heard this officer's assertion and repeated it upon returning to Helsingfors. Midship- manian war mission now in Wash-78 man Steurmer of a torpedo hoat crew ington was said at the State depart declared he would accept the chal- ment today to be purely unofficial, lenge and proceeded to recruit the re- having as its only purpose to unite conditions to be approved by the constituent assembly. The congress recommended that peasant land remain in status quo where legally owned and occupied.

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INTO RIVER BELOW RAGING CATARACT AND TURNS OVER

Several in Hospitals, Seriously Hurt; Exact Number of Dead Not Known; Caused by Washout.

Of Sixty Passengers on Board, Forty are Missing and

Niagrra Falls, N. Y., July 1.—A trolly car on the Gorge route, carrying sixty persons, jumped the track and ran into the Niagara river about 3:30 o'clock this afternoon.

At 6 o'clock the police reported that 45 persons were missing and several were in hospitals seriously hurt.

The car left the track just below the cantilever bridge on the American side of the river and turned bottom side up in the rushing current.

Four hours after the accident officials of the Gorge Route and the International railway, with which it connects, were unable to determine the number of dead.

It was definitely known however, that the car had a capacity of 60 persons and was filled and that only a few of those on board escaped.

The cause of the accident was said to have been a washout. The road bed under the cantilever bridge at the point where it occurred is a clay fill and recent heavy rains washed it out below the surface of the road bed.

When the heavily loaded car struck the weak spot this afternoon, the rail on the river side about ten feet from the antly after the morning session of waetr gave way. The car turned on its side, slid down into the police cour Saturday. water and as it struck the rock bottom of the river turned completely over, the top of the car resting on the botom of he river. candy and thought I would come in the murders, but was prevented

Not more than half a minute elapsed between the time the and report." car left the rails and the time it came to a standstill in the the man picked up the child and with

ELEVEN DIE WHEN STARTLING CUTS SHIP IS CRUSHED MADE IN FIGURES BY FALLING TANK OF THE ASSESSOR

Passed on by Board of Equal-

ization and Reductions Are

Made in Most Cases.

Tuesday night and adjourn until levy

(Continued on Page Two, Column Three.)

Say Mrs. Shields Not

Steamer Crashes Into Wharf, Sixteen Hundred Protests Loosening Fifty-Ton Reservoir That Falls on Crowded Decks.

(By Associated Press.)

sons met death and at least ten others Assessor Fitzgerald, who sent out nicest little families in Omaha. I mine, whom I remember seeing for were injured, some seriously, Satur- notices of boosts totaling millions of consider prohibition the greatest law the last time as they went down the day, the result of a fifty-ton water dollars, mark the closing sessions of has made life worth living for the goodbye to me. tank, erected on the Milwaukee river the county board of equalization, women and children of a great many front, toppling down on the whale- which will end a nineteen days grind men." back steamer Christopher Columbus, day, sometime the early part of Au-The "old man," Colonel William as that vessel was being swung around gust.

are proving the busiest, for hundreds unanimous in declaring prohibition is The steamer was in tow of two of business concerns and individuals In 1896 Colonel Baehr got a hank- tugs when it rammed the East Water whose assessments were raised by the and those called out July 15 would ering that he wanted to be a military street dock, abutting the warehouse of county assessor have waited until the proverbial last minute. First Nebraska with the rank of a with such force as to cause the steel Killed on Lens Salient

Killed a stop to Aquinaldo's depredations. hitting the vessel near the bridge and in Colonel Baehr "soldiered" all over not stopping until it had ripped possible:

Captain Moody, who was on the bridge at the time of the accident, gave it as his opinion that the tugs seemed unable to hold the boat and that had there been a leeway of but out its rewards. When Colonel six inches, the accident would not

The tank fell on the upper deck of the vessel, which was crowded with passengers. Many are said to have been knocked off the vessel into the

(Continued on Page Two, Column Seven.)

Famous German Airman Is Killed in Action

Washington, July 1 .- The Rou-

Russ Schooner Sunk Copenhagen, July 1.-Lieutenant By German Submarine off during June from May, although there were eight more arrests on Chattam, N. B., July 1.-The Rus- other charges. Following is a com-

sian schooner Sibens, 323 tons, from parative statement of the number of Cadiz for this port with a cargo of arrrests during May and June of this salt, has been sunk by a German sub- year and a year ago: marine, according to cable a 'vices to-Roumanian Mission

South Dakota Saloons Wind Up Their Business **Purely Unofficial**

Sioux Falls, S. D., July 1.— Saloons here did a bumper business today preparatory to closing tonight, when the state-wide prohibition law became effective. Several saloons closed their doors early today, having exhausted their stock and most drinks were selling at a

TWO VICTIMS FOULLY SLAIN, PLEADS JUSTICE BE DONE

Detective Wilkerson, Who Called Meeting, Arrested on Conspiracy Charge and Prevented by Injunction From Speaking; Citizens Aghast at Unseen Power; Attempt to Send Kelly to Asylum.

Red Oak, Ia., July 1.—(Special Telegram.)—A mass meeting of Red Oak citizens and residents from all parts of Montgomery county was held here Saturday afternoon to raise funds to carry out an exhaustive investigation of the Villisca ax murders of five years ago.

Prosecution of the guilty parties, if ferreted out, was demanded. A preliminary fund of \$700 to start the work was raised at the meeting.

From the platform it was openly charged that an attempt s being made to "railroad" Rev. George Lynn J. Kelly, now in jail at Logan, charged with the crime, to the insane asylum.

DETECTIVE IS ARRESTED. J. N. Wilkerson, a detective employed in the case and who called the mas's meeting, was arrested on a charge of conspiracy and taken to MAKE REPORT NOW

Kiddies They Bring Are

Living Witnesses.

a smile, departed.

suffering now

Wholesale reduction in taxes voted firmed cases, I visited a few days

again," the sergeant remarked.

Families Suffer.

year ago sixteen men were arrested

on this charge. Police officers are

Saves Dempsey Work.

the streets. We rarely have repo.

drunks are almost strangers here."

up in the enforcement of this law.

day jail sentences.

Number of Arrests.

Arrests for drunkenness have fallen

Fifty-eight arrests were made dur-

ing June for violations of the prohibi-

tion law. All but two of the offend-

ers have been tried. Twenty-eight were fined \$100 and costs. One bond

Arrests

Among Suffs Arrested effect now," said Prosecuting Attorney T. J. McGuire. "The supply

Washington, July 1.-Woman's stored away in the homes is running

party headquarters issued a statement out and men who stored away large

explaining that Mrs. Alex Shields of a counts are taking chances. Several

Amarillo, Tex., was not among the have employed agents working the

women arrested during suffrage dem- streets with one bottle at a time, but

onstrations this week, as had been an- we have a line on them and several nounced in a previous statement. Pub- big arrests will be made as soon as

lished stories of the incident have we have sufficient evidence to land

erroneously included her among those the man higher up. We will not let

Police Captain Dempsey when

responsible for this change.

Corning by Sheriff Simpson of Adams IN POLICE COURT Wilkerson's arrest created a senfor four years in the attempt to bring the murderer to justice. The detec-Tell Sergeant Wilson They Are tive is charged with conspiring with William Walker, Edward Boiler and Living Lives of Sobriety, and Harry Nave of Atlantic, Ia., now in

jail at Corning, to rob a store at Villisca, owned by F. F. Jones, former state senator. It is alleged that they hoped to "Good morning, sergeant," a well obtain papers bearing on the murder dressed middle aged man greeted case. Jones has been exonerated by a Court Sergeant W. R. Wilson pleas-der unsuccessfully against Wilkerson

Wilkerson gave bond and returned to Red Oak in time to attend the brought the baby down town to meeting. He hurried to the hall to ing the murders, but was prevented from speaking by a restraining order served by Sheriff R. A. Dunn of Montgomery county. He thanked the After a few minutes conversation. audience for attending the meeting.

but was not permitted to say more. I never expect to see him here The injunction prohibited Wilker-"The judge has paroled several son from holding public meetings or men to me who were in the habit of attempting to influence jurors, witson from holding public meetings or getting drunk and abusing their fami- nesses or officers summoned for the lies," Said Sergeant Wilson by way of trial next September of Lynn George explanation. This man was one of J. Kelly, itinerant clergyman, them, but I just told him he would After Wilkerson was forced

After Wilkerson was forced to renot have to come again. He doesn't lire, Joe Stillinger, father of the two look much like the sot he was a few girls who were slain with the Moore family at Villisca in 1912, addressed months ago and from the appearance of his chill, I guess his family is not the audience.

Father Pleads for Justice.

With tears streaming down his "Nothing ever tore my heart cheeks, he declared that he would trings more than to see men of contribute money as long as he had a families come here as they did before cent and vould work as long as a rohibition became a law. Since May drop of blood remained in his veins, few have come back. Several who along the lines now being pursued to

have reported in the last few days solve the murder mystery unless it is looked so prosperous I did not know proven to him that the wrong line of them at first. One of the most con- investigation is being followed "I want justice," he said, "for the Milwaukee, July 1.-Eleven per in the face of objections by County ago. I found one of the happiest and murder of those two little girls of

> "The reason I never saw them again was because soon after they said During the month past, but five goodbye to me the murderer's ax men have been arrested for abusing so mutilated their faces that they were not fit to look upon. their families in various ways. One

Clarence Miller of Red Oak declared that since Rev. Lynn George J. Kelly was placed in jail at Logan, charged with the Villisca murders, several attempts have been made to persuade him to go to the asylum at Clarinda. He declared that those Members of the equalization body asked of the noticeable effects of the in authority have said that no one else will be indicted for the murder until Kelly is tried.

Plot to Railroad Kelly.

"If they can put Kelly in the asylum," Miller said, "he can be kept not have as many vagrants and beg-Some of the reductions voted by gars as before. I do not know there and it will prevent anybody else the board as whole in the last twenty whether they have gone to work or from being tried for the Moore murhours over the violent protestations of left town, but they do not loaf around

Others who spoke at the meeting were Swan Rosander, L. B. Penton The big plants are having their and Ed Peterson, prominent Montgomery county farmers. Harve Wil-lett, John Montgomery and Joe Stillinger of Villisca subscribed \$100 each toward the further investigation of the murders, J. W. Noell and J. L. Gourley of Villisca contributed \$50 each, and Swan Rosander, Mrs. E Ericsson, A. Newall and J. Holden

Hindenburg Again Offers Armistice to Russians

(Continued on Page Two, Column Three.)

Copenhagen, July 1.-It is report-

ed from German sources that Field Marshal von Hindenburg, chief of the general staff, in a wireless message has again offered an armistice to Russia. This time his wish is to suspend hostilities during the election of delegates to the Russian constitutional

Hot Winds Shatter All

Kansas Heat Records

Topeka, Kan., July 1.-Hot winds and a blazing sun combined today to was forfeited and two were soldiers shatter Kansas heat records for June and turned over to the United States 30. The maximum temperature of army officers. Ten were discharged 102 degrees registered here at 4 on insufficient evidence, etc. Fifteen o'clock this afternoon was the highwere found guilty and given thirty est for this date in thirty years, according to the government bureau.